

The Alaska Fisheries Development Foundation continues to work on alternative uses of salmon and particularly in the recovery of salmon processing waste so as to optimize the use of the large volume of Alaska salmon harvested and processed for human consumption. AFDF recognizes the difficulties in collecting, stabilizing, and processing salmon waste into co-products and identifies that steps are needed for:

- Machinery and systems for automated separation of heads, trim, racks, skins, and viscera into sorted lines. This is particularly valuable in rendering oils from the heads (10-13% by weight);
- Machinery and automated procedures for separating connective tissues from racks to produce gelatins and collagens;
- Machinery and automated procedures for separating skins and brown layer during deep skinning for recovery of value in each item;
- Separation and drying methods for recovery of discarded roe and milt for use as growth enhancing hormones;
- Acid stabilizing and base neutralizing tables for blending guidelines in holding stabilized waste over different time periods while preserving proteins.

AFDF believes research in these areas would prove of value to the industry and particularly in meeting the challenges of recovering the vast amount of salmon biomass discarded in the present H&G operations.